

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): Synthetic particle consisting of at least one nucleic acid sequence ~~or nucleic acid derivative sequence~~ and one protein having a molecular weight in the range from 3900 to 4300 and comprising more than 50 percent by weight of arginine, wherein an average diameter of the particle is between about 10 nm and 100 μ m, and wherein the nucleic acid sequence is an oligonucleotide or a derivative thereof.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): Synthetic particle according to Claim 28, where the protein is selected from the following group: protamine, protamine base, protamine derivatives or salts.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): Synthetic particle according to Claim 28, where the nucleic acid sequence is in single-stranded form.

Claim 31 (Canceled).

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): Synthetic particle according to Claim ~~34~~ 28, where the oligonucleotide consists of at least 5 nucleotides.

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TO BE ENTERED